

236cb) and 1,1,1,3,3,3-hexafluoropropane (R-236fa). A particularly preferred pentafluoropropane is R-245fa. A particularly preferred hexafluoropropane is R-236ea.

In a preferred embodiment, the hydrofluoropropane that is used in the process of the invention is a heptafluoropropane. The heptafluoropropane which is employed in this preferred embodiment may be 1,1,1,2,3,3,3-heptafluoropropane (R-227ea) or 1,1,1,2,2,3,3-heptafluoropropane (R-227ca). Mixtures of the two heptafluoropropanes may also be employed. The preferred heptafluoropropane is 1,1,1,2,3,3,3-heptafluoropropane (R-227ea).

In the Claims:

Cancel claims 1-37 and replace them with new claims 38-56 as follows:

--38. A process for extracting a compound or composition of matter from a raw material containing that compound or composition as a constituent part, which process comprises the steps of (1) contacting a sample of the raw material with an extraction solvent comprising a C_{1-3} hydrofluorocarbon selected from the group consisting of difluoromethane, pentafluoroethane and hydrofluoropropanes and a co-solvent to form a solvent liquor comprising the extraction solvent and an extract from the raw material, and (2) separating the solvent liquor containing the extract from the raw material.--

--39. A process as claimed in claim 38, wherein the C_{1-3} hydrofluorocarbon is a hydrofluoropropane.--

--40. A process as claimed in claim 39, wherein the hydrofluoropropane is 1,1,1,2,3,3,3-heptafluoropropane.--

3
--41. A process as claimed in claim 38 or claim 40, wherein the extract comprises a biologically active compound or a precursor thereof.--

--42. A process as claimed in claim 41, wherein the extract comprises a pesticide or a precursor thereof.--

--43. A process as claimed in claim 42, wherein the pesticide is a pyrethroid.--

--44. A process as claimed in claim 41, wherein the extract comprises a pharmaceutically active substance or a precursor thereof.--

--45. A process as claimed in claim 44, wherein the extract comprises a penicillin, an alkaloid, paclitaxel, taxane, a monensin or a cytochalasin.--

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--46. A process for extracting a natural product from a plant material containing that product as a constituent part, which process comprises the steps of (1) contacting a sample of the plant material with an extraction solvent comprising a C₁₋₃ hydrofluorocarbon selected from the group consisting of difluoromethane, pentafluoroethane and hydrofluoropropanes and a co-solvent to form a solvent liquor comprising the extraction solvent and an extract from the plant material, and (2)

separating the solvent liquor containing the extract from the plant material.--

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--47. A process as claimed in claim 45, wherein the C_{1-3} hydrofluorocarbon is a hydrofluoropropane.--

--48. A process as claimed in claim 47, wherein the hydrofluoropropane is 1,1,1,2,3,3,3-heptafluoropropane.--

--49. A process as claimed in claim 46 or claim 48, wherein the natural product is a flavored or aromatic composition.--

--50. A process as claimed in claim 46 or claim 48, wherein the natural product is a flavored or aromatic oil.--

--51. A process as claimed in claim 38 or claim 46, wherein the extraction solvent comprises a co-solvent having a boiling point in the range of from -85 to 20°C .--

--52. A process as claimed in claim 38 or claim 46, wherein the co-solvent is a C_{2-6} hydrocarbon.--

--53. A process as claimed in claim 38 or claim 46, wherein the co-solvent is a C_{2-4} alkane.--

--54. A process as claimed in claim 38 or claim 46, wherein the co-solvent is a dialkyl ether.--

--55. A process as claimed in claim 38 or claim 46, wherein the co-solvent is dimethyl ether, butane or a mixture thereof.--